# Bowers Mistrial Ruled After Jury Deadlocks

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HATTIESBURG, Miss. (AP) A mistrial was declared today in the murder trial of Sam H. Bowers Jr., former Imperial Wizard of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, accused of ordering the death of Negro leader Vernon Dahmer.

The jury of 10 white men and two Negoes informed Circuit Court Judge Stanton Hall at 9:10 a. m. (CST) that they were hopelessly deadlocked with ten voting for conviction and two against.

Judge Stanton then declared a mistrial.

Bowers, a 45-year-old Laurel, Miss., coin machine business operator, had been charged with ordering the fire bombing of Dahmer's home and store on Jan. 10, 1966. Dahmer, 50, died 15 hours after the attack, his lungs seared.

Ku Klux Klan witnesses said Dahmer was slain because he had been active in getting Negroes registered to vote.

The case went to the jury at 3:45 p. m. yesterday.